

**Tuesday, May 11, 1999**

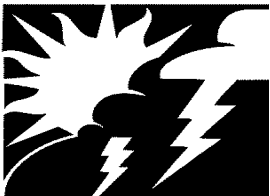
**Discovery fitted with  
new drag chute door  
for STS-96 launch**



**SSPF active with  
three payloads for  
upcoming missions**

▲ **Space Shuttle Update** – Shuttle managers last week confirmed plans to use a functional drag chute and strengthened drag chute door assembly on Discovery for the upcoming STS-96 launch. Inconel hinge-pins will replace the aluminum pins that failed during the STS-95 flight. Payload bay doors are expected to be closed today, May 11, for flight. The launch date has been set for May 20 at 9:32 a.m.. The crew will arrive at KSC on May 17 at 7:30 a.m. Launch countdown for STS-96 begins May 17 at noon.

▲ **The Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM)** was moved into the Space Station Processing Facility on May 7 for pre-launch processing. It is sharing the site with the U.S. Lab module, named *Destiny*, and the Multi-Purpose Logistics Module (MPLM), named *Leonardo*. The SRTM is scheduled for launch on mission STS-99 in September 1999. The U.S. Lab is targeted for launch in April 2000, and the MPLM in June 2000.



◆ **Lightning Warnings At KSC** -- Dashing from your car across a parking lot, or from building to building, with an umbrella over your head during a Phase 2 lightning advisory makes you a moving lightning rod. Phase 2 means that lightning is occurring in the area, so please take heed and stay inside. For information, please e-mail Wayne Kee at [Wayne.Kee-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Wayne.Kee-1@ksc.nasa.gov).

◆ **The S.R. 3 & 5th Street intersection** is still closed to traffic until further notice. The construction is going well and will hopefully be completed ahead of schedule. Please pay attention to the construction warning signs and cooperate with other drivers to make the situation as pleasant as possible. For more information, please e-mail James Lorence at [James.Lorence-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:James.Lorence-1@ksc.nasa.gov).

◆ **Reminder** -- A presentation concerning the KSC Registered Lock and Key System will be given at the **KSC Training Auditorium, M7-351, at 1 p.m., Wednesday, May 12**. For more information, please contact George B. Stephenson, SGS Locksmith Services, 867-3068.

◆ **Did You Know?** Toastmasters is an International organization dedicated to improving the communications and leadership skills of its members. Toastmasters training is sponsored by NASA for civil service personnel. The KSC organization meets every Wednesday at 11:15 a.m. in HQ 2201. The LC-39 group meets every first and third Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. in OSB room 5308. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Jack Jamba, 861-3519, or Dian Hardison, 867-2548, for more information.



**Comments or Questions? Mail to: Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov**  
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